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August 29, 2003

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To: Medically Dependent Children Program (MDCP) Providers

Subject: Long Term Care (LTC)  
MDCP Information Letter No. 03-02  
Medically Dependent Children Program (MDCP) Rate Changes,  
Effective September 1, 2003

The Texas Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) approved rate changes for the Medically Dependent Children Program (MDCP) Home and Community Support Services providers effective September 1, 2003. The new rates are included on the attached Reimbursement Rate chart, which should be substituted for the rates cited in Appendix G at the back of the Provider Manual; also refer to page 33, until the revised information is distributed.

The proposed state fiscal year (SFY) 2004 and 2005 payment rates (effective September 1, 2003 and September 1, 2004) incorporate provisions in House Bill 1 regarding the appropriations for community programs for SFY 2004 and 2005 and HHSC Appropriations Rider 46. HHSC Appropriations Rider 46 requires that reductions to any long term care budget strategy shall be calculated without rebasing of current reimbursement rates and shall be shared equally across all Medicaid providers funded by the strategy. As a result, proposed payment rates for community-based programs have been reduced by 1.1 percent.

All claims for services delivered on or after September 1, 2003, will be processed using the new payment rates. Claims submitted by the provider for any services delivered on or after September 1, 2003, should be prepared using the new rates.

Please contact the Case Manager in your region if you have any further questions regarding this information letter.

Sincerely,

Signature on file

Becky Beechinor  
Assistant Deputy Commissioner  
Long Term Care Services

BB:ck

Attachment

## MDCP RATES

The rates for MDCP services as of 9/1/03 are:

Medically Dependent Children Program	Rate per	Amount
Independent Registered Nurse	Hour	\$23.74
Independent Licensed Vocational Nurse	Hour	\$19.78
Home and Community Support Services Agency Nurse (RN or LVN)	Hour	\$27.20
Personal Assistance Services no delegation	Hour	\$9.73
Personal Assistance Services with delegation	Hour	\$10.11